



# NEWS

From County Supervisor Paul Biane

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For more information, contact  
Matt Brown, Second District Chief of Staff  
(909) 387-4833

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## County Purchases “Green” Dump Trucks

**SAN BERNARDINO** – On Tuesday, the Board of Supervisors approved the purchase of three compressed natural gas-powered dump trucks to replace pollution-producing diesel trucks.

“These natural gas trucks are part of the County of San Bernardino’s concerted effort to use ‘green’ technology to lessen impacts on our environment,” Board of Supervisors Chairman Paul Biane said. “The County has already added about 50 electric-hybrid vehicles to its fleet over the past three years, and the County will continue to invest in environmentally friendly vehicles as we continue moving forward.”

The Department of Public Works recommended purchasing the three compressed natural gas-powered trucks to replace aging and difficult-to-maintain diesel units in the Flood Control District’s vehicle fleet. The three trucks cost \$939,100. The Flood Control District will receive \$75,000 from the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee to help offset the cost of purchasing the vehicles.

Diesel exhaust is a recognized cancer-causing agent, and its fine particulates also exacerbate health conditions such as asthma and heart disease. Natural

gas-powered trucks produce about 90 percent less particulate matter than diesel engines. Natural gas vehicles also produce less carbon monoxide and nitrogen oxide than diesel vehicles. Nitrogen oxide is a main component of smog.

The vehicle purchases approved by the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday will bring the number of natural gas-powered vehicles in the Department of Public Works' fleet to 14. About 45 diesel-powered vehicles remain.

The three new natural gas-powered dump trucks will be used to maintain flood control facilities in the County's west end and in the San Bernardino area.

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